



TOWN OF WEST HARTFORD

MEETING MINUTES

West Hartford Clean Energy Task Force

April 18, 2016

7:00 PM

Rm 422

1. Roll Call – 7:12 PM

Member	Present	Alternates	Present
Catherine Diviney	X	Ashwin Raghavan	
Robert Palmer	X	Vacant (resident)	
Bernie Pelletier	X	Vacant (staff)	
Joe Campanella	X		
Chris Nelson	X		
Total	(3 need for quorum)		
Additional Attendees	Max DuBuisson, Craig Diamond, Matt Macunas		

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. March 14, 2016 - Approved

3. Receipt of Communications: none

4. Updates & Unfinished Business

- a. 2nd Alternate

Max (Independent) was selected as the alternate and will be submitted to Town Council for approval.

- b. Westmoor Park – 3 Proposals for Solar

3 good proposals were received for grant funded \$14850 array. Sunlight Solar was selected with a 4.69 KW array, LG 335W panels and Solaredge inverter and power optimizers.. \$3.16/watt = good price!

- c. Charter Oak New Construction

Bob Palmer shared photos of new school construction.

Joe C. asked if we could look at test score metrics of old Charter Oak vs. new LEED Charter Oak to see if difference.

5. Energy / Recycling Plan

- a. **Residential Letter – Done!** will be mailed out in a few weeks by Eversource.

- **Solar Workshop – Th, May 12 7-8:30PM, Rm 314**

Everything in place. Catherine will introduce, SolarizeCT will be main presenter, Bernie will show his and Jeff Howard's case studies. Send photos of WH projects to Catherine for slide show.

- EE Workshop – W, Oct 12 7-8:30PM, Rm 314
- Channel 95 videos
Should be up and running.
- Celebrate WH – Sa-Sun June 4-5
Catherine submitted application. We will need volunteers to staff booth.
- EV Event – Sa, June 18, 10-1 PM
Chris and Matt M. in charge
- Lightbulb Swaps – Bishops Corner (M Sept 26 3-7 PM) & Elmwood (Sa, Sept 24 (9:30-1:30)

b. Town Eversource usage data – benchmark, still no data

If there is no movement on this soon Catherine will contact Rep. Brian Becker to put pressure on Eversource.

Simsbury and Westport have also requested data.

6. New Business

a. Town's energy financing approach

Bernie wanted to discuss if the Town considered other variables in their process of project analysis besides payback. Catherine mentioned that it was recommended in the 2009 Energy Plan to develop evaluation models that considered life cycle cost and other "intangibles," But in practice, people (finance/political) always focused on payback. The next version of the plan should revisit this.

b. WH CETF Carbon Offset fund

Bernie asked if the Task Force should ever consider offering residents a "local" way to offset their own carbon footprint by buying shares in Town energy efficiency or renewable energy projects or something like this.

Max pointed out some of the complications around official certificate of credits, double counting, and financial transactions with the Town. It was decided this was not a feasible idea and that it was best to direct residents who want to offset their carbon footprint to a company who does this as their official business.

c. Hall HS Science Labs

Catherine mentioned the next NEW construction that WHPS will undertake is Hall Science Labs. This would be subject to the LEED gold standard (like Charter Oak) as required by the Town's Energy Plan. May be a difficult hurdle for a Science Lab.

Bob Palmer indicated that it would be in the RFP and that even though it might be a challenge, they will try to meet requirements. There was general discussion about fresh air requirements, passive venting hoods, etc.

7. General Announcements

a. DEEP Grants

Chris Nelson mentioned that DEEP is offering grants for studies on the unit-based pricing model for trash disposal.

April 26th is compost awareness day.

b. Green Bank Interns

Matt M. indicated the Green has several interns that will be working as part of an Environmental Defense Fund fellowship on outreach. C-Pace is one of the topics.

8. Adjournment – 8:56 PM